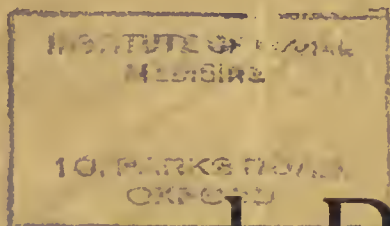


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Breconshire County Council



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1950

BY

W. F. W. BETENSON,

M.B., D.P.H.

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

BRECON:

Express & County Times, Printers

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BRECONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

I have the honour to submit to you my Nineteenth Annual Report with Vital Statistics and Sanitary Conditions of Breconshire for the year 1950.

The death rate for the year was 12.95 compared with 11.6 for England and Wales and 12.46 for the County in 1949.

The Birth Rate for Live Births was 15.43 compared with 15.8 for England and Wales and the Birth Rate for Still Births was 0.44 compared with 0.37 for England and Wales, the corresponding Birth Rates for the County in 1949 being Live Births 17.3 and Still Births 0.48.

The Infantile Mortality rate for the year was 37.88 compared with 29 for England and Wales and 43.75 for the County in 1949.

There were no deaths of Mothers during Childbirth in the year, compared with a rate for England and Wales of 5.81.

I regret to have to report the death of your Assistant Medical Officer, Dr. R. Cairns Forrester, which occurred suddenly on 23rd April, 1950.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. F. W. BETENSON,

County Medical Officer of Health.

County Health Offices,

Watton, Brecon.

29th October, 1951.

Telephone: Brecon Office 214.

Home 167.

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH IN THE COUNTY.

Brecon Urban ; and Rural ;	}	Dr. T. C. R. George, Guild Hall, Brecon (Tel.: Brecon 26).
Builth Urban ; and Rural ;		
Hay Urban ; and Rural ;		
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban :		
Brynmawr Urban :	}	Dr. J. Tate, c/o. 25, Victoria Street, Merthyr Tydfil. (Tel.: Merthyr 466).
Crickhowell Rural :		
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural :		
Ystradgynlais Rural :		

SANITARY INSPECTORS IN THE COUNTY.

Brecon Urban :	Mr. S. Jinks, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Guild Hall, Brecon.
Brynmawr Urban :	Mr. Thomas Eli Hall, M.S.I.A., Council Offices, Brynmawr.
Builth Wells Urban :	Mr. E. V. Collins, M.R.S.I., Builth Wells.
Hay Urban :	Mr. Garfield G. Evans, Tower House, Talgarth.
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban :	Mr. G. Williams, Llanwrtyd.
Brecon Rural :	Mr. W. J. Rees, M.R.S.I., M.R.I.P.H.H., M.S.I.A., Oxford House, The Watton, Brecon.
Builth Rural :	Mr. G. H. Llewellyn, M.R.S.I., Builth Wells.
Crickhowell Rural :	Mr. E. R. Morgan, Pentwyn, Gilwern.
Hay Rural :	Mr. Garfield C. Evans, Tower House, Talgarth.
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural :	Mr. S. P. Harris, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I., 25, Victoria Street, Merthyr Tydfil.
Ystradgynlais Rural :	Mr. W. Emlyn Jones, M.R.S.I., M.I.S.A., Council Offices, Ystrad- gynlais.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Square miles)	...	733
Area (Acres)	...	469,281
Population (1931 Census)	...	57,775
„ (1939 Census)	...	54,357
„ estimated to middle of 1950	...	56,426
Rateable Value (1st April, 1950)	...	£297,859
Sum represented by a 1d. rate, 1949-50	...	£1,178

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Section 21.—Health Centres: It has not been possible to make any progress in the provision of Health Centres but the matter is still before the Committee.

Section 22. — Care of Mothers and Young Children: This Section covers the following activities:—(a) Ante-natal clinics, (b) Post-natal clinics, (c) Child welfare clinics, (d) Day nurseries and residential nurseries, (e) Mother and baby homes, (f) Dental treatment given to expectant or nursing mothers, and children under 5 years of age, (g) care of premature infants, (h) Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Maternal Deaths, etc., and replaces the old heading of Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Tables dealing with the various sections are given below:—

Care of Premature Infants.—i.e., babies, weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth, irrespective of period of gestation. Still births are excluded.

- (a) Number of premature infants notified during the year (including transferred notifications) whose mothers normally reside in the Authority's area:—

(i) Born at home	...	15
(ii) Born in hospital or nursing home	...	47

- (b) Premature babies born in the area (whether their mothers normally reside in the area or not) but **excluding** babies born in maternity homes and hospitals in the National Health Service.

	BORN AT HOME.							BORN IN PRIVATE NURSING HOMES*						
	Transferred to Hospital.	Nursed entirely at Home.					GRAND TOTAL.	Transferred to Hospital.	Nursed entirely in Private Nursing Home.					GRAND TOTAL.
		Died in first 24 hours	Died on 2nd to 7th day.	Died on 8th to 28th day	Survived 28 days	TOTAL			Died in first 24 hours.	Died on 2nd to 7th day.	Died on 8th to 28th day.	Survived 28 days	TOTAL	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
Under 3 lbs.
3-4lbs.
4-5½lbs.	..	1	1	..	..	13	14	15	..	..	..	1	1	1
TOTAL	..	1	1	..	..	13	14	15	..	..	..	1	1	1

N.B.—1 premature, 6 months, weight at birth, died after 25 mins., born in isolation hospital.

*Including Maternity Homes not in the National Health Service and Mother and Baby Homes where the women are confined in the Home.

Complicated Maternity Cases.—There is a maternity ward in the County War Memorial Hospital at Brecon, and one each in the Crickhowell War Memorial Hospital, and Bulth Cottage Hospital.

During 1950 the following cases were admitted to hospital through the Health Department on account of bad housing or home conditions:—

Brecon—33. Bulth—4. Neath General—64. St Tydfil's, (Merthyr Tydfil)—12. Crickhowell—2. Abergavenny Cottage Hospital—1. Gwaunfarren Maternity Home—1. St. James, Tredegar—13. Hereford County Hospital—15. Rookery, Ebbw Vale—1. Llandrindod County Hospital—1.

Clinic and Treatment Centres, Maternity and Child Welfare.—Maternity and Child Welfare Centres:—

Centre and Place of Meeting.	Day and Time of Meeting.
1 Abererave—Miners' Welfare Hall	.. 2nd & 4th Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.
2 Brecon—Clinic, Watton Offices	.. 3rd Friday in month at 2 p.m.
3 Brynmawr—School Clinic	.. 1st and 3rd Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.
4 Bulth Wells—Park House, Park Road	.. 1st Tuesday in month at 2 p.m.
5 Cefn Coed—School Clinic	.. 1st and 3rd Monday in month at 2 p.m.
6 Clydach—Welfare Hall	.. 2nd Thursday in month at 2 p.m.

Centre and Place of Meeting.		Day and Time of Meeting.
7	Colbren—Miners' Welfare Hall	... 2nd Monday in month at 2 p.m.
8	Crickhowell—Senior School	.. 4th Thursday in month at 1.30 p.m.
9	Cwmtyrch—Miners' Welfare Hall	.. 4th Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.
10	Darenfelen—Welfare Hall	.. 2nd Thursday in month at 10 a.m.
11	Defynock—Reading Room, Sennybridge..	3rd Tuesday in month at 2 p.m.
12	Gilwern—Church Hall, Gilwern	.. 4th Thursday in month at 1.30 p.m.
13	Hay—Wesley Hall, Oxford Road	.. 4th Thursday in month at 10 a.m.
14	Llanwrtyd Wells—War Mem. Institute	1st Friday in month at 2 p.m.
15	Penderyn—Bethel Ch. Vestry, Hirwaun	Weekly, Tuesdays, 1.30 p.m.
16	Talgarth—Town Hall	.... 4th Tuesday in month at 2 p.m.
17	Ystradgynlais—School Clinic	... 1st and 3rd Thursday in month at 2 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics. — Ante-Natal Clinics are held as follows in the same premises as for Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

1. Abercrave. — 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
2. Brynmawr.—1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
3. Cefn Coed.—1st and 3rd Mondays, a.m.
4. Ystradgynlais.—1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
5. Defynock.—3rd Tuesday at 11 a.m.
6. Brecon.—3rd Friday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
7. Hirwaun.—Bethel Church Vestry, weekly, Tuesdays, 9.30 a.m.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants, and Homeless Children in the District—

Arrangements are made with the Swansea and Brecon Moral Welfare Association to carry out this work in return for grant paid, the Health Authority being responsible for the maintenance of the mother for one month before the confinement and for a period of 14 days after birth. Maintenance after this date becomes the responsibility of the Welfare Committee, who also give the Association an Annual Grant of £100.

Day Nurseries, Hospitals for Children, and Mother and Baby Homes.—There are none in the County. The Education Committee has one Nursery School at Brynmawr.

DENTAL TREATMENT OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE.

The position here remains the same as reported in 1948 and 1949.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—

Number of cases notified in 1950, which

(a) vision was unimpaired	...	Nil
(b) Vision impaired	...	Nil
(c) vision lost	...	Nil
(d) patient died	...	Nil
(e) patient still under treatment at end of year...	Nil	
(f) patient removed from district	...	Nil
(g) classification under above heads cannot be made	...	Nil

Maternal Deaths—

(a) **Number of women who died in consequence of child-birth during the year:—**

		From Sepsis.	From Other Causes.	Totals.
Confined at home	...	—	—	—
Confined in Nursing Home	...	—	—	—

(b) **Number of women who died:—**

At home	...	Nil
In nursing homes	...	Nil
After removal to an Institution	...	Nil

Section 23—Midwives Service.—

Tables dealing with midwifery, notification of births, etc., are given below:—

Supervision of Midwives—

Sixty Midwives notified their intention to practice in the County, viz., 53 resident and 7 border midwives.

Of the above—

14 were resident in Institutions.

6 were in independent practice.

40 were employed by the County Council: County 35, Border 5.

During the year, of the resident midwives 4 left the County, 1 died and 1 ceased to practice under Regulation 33.

Notifications from Midwives during 1950—

124 Forms of sending for Medical Aid were received:—110 for mothers and 14 for children.

An analysis of the causes for summoning medical aid is given below:—

FOR THE MOTHER—

Miscarriage, Abortion, actual or threatened	...	3
Contracted Pelvis	...	1
Hæmorrhage, ante and post partum	...	6
Prolonged obstructed and labour inertia	...	29
Malpresentation or Malposition	...	2
Other illnesses during pregnancy	...	—
Retained or adherent placenta or membranes	...	4
Ruptured perineum	...	36
Unsatisfactory condition of mother	...	14
Pyrexia	...	4
Premature Labour	...	—
Albuminuria	...	4
Breech	...	4
Phlebitis	...	1
Ante Natal—re Position	...	1
Post Maturity	...	1

FOR THE CHILD—

Premature or feebleness	...	5
Deformity or abnormality	...	1
Eye infections	...	1
Other conditions	...	4
Skin condition	...	—
Jaundice	...	2
Stillbirth	...	1

FEES OF DOCTORS CALLED IN UNDER MIDWIVES ACT, 1918—Section 14.

No. of cases in which General Practitioners claimed payment in respect of Medical Aid Forms	...	21
Total amount of Claims paid	...	£84 16 0

Breaches of Central Midwives Board Rules.—No breaches of the rules occurred in the year.

Administration of Analgesics.

1. Number of midwives in practice in the area qualified to administer analgesics, in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board:—		
(a) Domiciliary	...	28
(b) In Institutions	...	4
Total	—	32

2. Number of cases in which analgesics was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year:—
172.
3. Number of Midwives trained in the year ... 5
4. Total number of sets of Minnitts Gas and Air Apparatus supplied by the Council ... 25

Section 24.—Health Visiting.—The health visiting staff now consists of all nurses previously employed part-time by District Nursing Associations who were taken over by the County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946, together with the whole-time School Nurses, Health Visitors and Midwives previously in the Council service.

Figures dealing with the Health Visiting are given below:—

Notification of Births—

The following notifications of births were received during the year: Live Births 661, Still Births 14, making a total of 675.

These births were attended by:—

County Council (a) Midwives (whole time)	... 99
(b) District Nurse Midwives: County 301, Border 2	... 303
Private Midwives: County 6, Border 2	... 8
Hospital and Institutional Midwives	... 265

Number of Births notified in the Authority's Area during 1950 under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as adjusted by any transferred notifications:—

(a) Live Births—855, (b) Still-Births—36, (c) Total—881.

Health Visiting.—The Health Visiting Service in the County consists of 1 Superintendent Nursing Office, and 18 part-time Health Visitors.

Particulars of the number of visits paid to mothers and babies are to be found in Table VI appended.

Section 25—Home Nursing.—The County Council now provide a whole-time nursing service.

Figures of cases of home visits paid and cases attended are given below:—

1. Number of Nurses employed at end of year:—
 - (a) Whole-time ... 2
 - (b) Part-time ... 25
2. Equivalent of whole-time service devoted to Home Nursing ... 8
3. Number of visits paid by Home Nurses ... 30743
4. Number of cases attended by Home Nurse ... 1692

Section 26—Vaccination and Immunisation. (a) Vaccination.—Vaccination can be carried out by the family doctors at their surgeries at the request of the parents, and practitioners who have expressed a wish to undertake this work, are supplied with lymph free of charge, on request to the appropriate Public Health Laboratory, and record cards are supplied from the Health Department on which to enter the necessary particulars, these cards being for statistical purposes.

Vaccination is free of charge to the patient.

Figures of children vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in 1950.

Age at 31st Dec., 1950 i.e., born in years ...	Under 1 1950	1 to 4 1946 to 1949	5 to 14 1936 to 1945	15 or over (before 1936)	Total
Number Vaccinated ...	71	51	7	12	141
Number Re-Vaccinated ...	...	1	1	23	25

(b) Diphtheria Immunisation. — Diphtheria Immunisation work is being carried out quite satisfactorily at the various Infant Welfare Centres, on school premises and clinics, and from the figures obtainable to the end of the year, there is no doubt that the scheme is working most efficiently. In addition children are immunised by private practitioners at their surgeries, and record cards are provided by the Health Department. Completed records are returned for statistical purposes.

Number of children immunised during the year 1950.

District	Primary Immunisation		Totals	Re- inforcing Dose
	Under 5	5—14		
Brecon Urban ...	58	11	69	86
Brynmawr Urban ..	58	61	119	14
Builth Urban ...	28	9	37	46
Hay Urban ...	15	3	18	15
Llanwrtyd Urban ...	12	...	12	2
Brecon Rural ...	70	19	89	114
Builth Rural ...	27	19	46	41
Crickhowell Rural ...	38	47	85	24
Hay Rural ..	41	12	53	74
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural ...	33	5	38	87
Ystradgynlais Rural ...	101	134	235	202
Totals, 1950 ...	481	320	801	705
Totals, 1949 ...	838	318	1156	1450

The figures are down this year compared with 1949 since we were a medical officer short for eight months of the year owing to the death of Dr. R. C. Forrester in April.

Section 27—Ambulance Services.—This Service continues, as given in detail in my report for 1948, as follows:—St. John Ambulance Stations are established at Brecon, Builth, Crickhowell, Hay and Brynmawr from 1st April, 1950. In addition, the County Council has taken over the Ystradgynlais Ambulance Association with two ambulances and two whole-time drivers.

The Ambulance arrangements remain as follows:—

1. **Brecon Ambulance.** — To cover Brecon Borough and the whole of the Brecon Rural District.
2. **Builth Ambulance** — To cover Builth Urban, Llanwrtyd Urban, and Builth Rural District, with the exception of the parish of Llanwrthwl at the very North of the County. This ambulance will also, by arrangement with Radnorshire, in emergency cases only, continue to cover as heretofore a small area of that County adjoining Builth Urban, viz., the Parishes of Llanellwedd, Llansantffraed-in-Elvel, Aberedw, Bettws Disserth, Rhulen, Llanbadarn-y-garreg, Llanfaredw, and Cregina, Glaswain and Colva. Radnorshire on their part will cover for us the three Breconshire Parishes of Llysdimam, Llanfihangel-Brynpabuan, and Llanwrthwl in the north of the County by their ambulance from Llandrinod Wells.
3. **Hay Ambulance.** — To cover Hay Urban and Hay Rural Districts, together with the Radnorshire District of Painscastle Rural and villages of Newchurch and Michaelchurch-on-Arrow.
4. **Crickhowell Ambulance.** — To cover the whole of the Crickhowell Rural District, other than Clydach and Darenfelen areas.
5. **Brynmawr Ambulance.**—An additional Ambulance is contemplated for the Brynmawr, Clydach and Darenfelen Areas (this Ambulance was placed on 1st April) to cover the Brynmawr Urban, Clydach and Darenfelen areas.

The Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee act as sole agents of the Authority for the above areas of the County and operates the Brecon, Builth, Hay and Crickhowell ambulances on terms mutually agreed, and as may be approved by the Minister of Health from time to time. The Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee is responsible for the operation and maintenance of an efficient ambulance service in these areas.

6. **Ystradgynlais Ambulances.**—Two ambulances owned by the County in this area operate within the frame-work of the County Ambulance Service and are subject to the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health.

Apart from what has been mentioned above in connection with Radnorshire there are two areas of the County, all situated on the Southern Border, for which arrangements have been made for them to be covered by outside Authorities as follows:—

- (a) **Vaynor and Penderyn Rural District**, including the Brecon Rural appendage of Hepste. Glamorgan has undertaken to cover this area in their scheme by their ambulances stationed at Seven Sisters, Glynneath, and Aberdare.
- (b) **The Village of Cefn Coed and the adjoining Parish of Vaynor (Pontsticill).**—The Borough of Merthyr Tydfil has undertaken to include this area in their ambulance scheme.

Since a considerable number of people live in the rural part of the Penderyn Parish situated on the Eastern Border of this Parish where it adjoins the Parish of Vaynor but live within easy access of the main Brecon-Merthyr Road, arrangements have been made that these people should be covered for ambulance purposes by the Merthyr Borough even though they actually live within part of the area for which Glamorgan has undertaken responsibility since it is much more easy to obtain ambulance transport from Merthyr.

The arrangements with the border Counties have worked satisfactorily and the various difficulties that arise are being smoothed out. Generally speaking I think it can be said that the scheme is working well and in a short time all difficulties should be overcome.

A County Ambulance Transport Committee meets regularly, and includes representatives of the County Council, the Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee, the Ystradgynlais District Ambulance Association, the Regional Hospital Board and Co-opted representatives of other interested bodies.

Sitting Car Service.—This service is running quite efficiently and works as follows:—

Each Medical Practitioner, midwife, hospital matron and other interested persons are supplied with voucher books authorising journeys to be made by private car at the expense of the County Council in all cases where by reason of physical defect the patient is unable to travel by public conveyance, and the starting point is situated within the County. The charges permitted to car owners and the mileage allowed are 1/- a mile plus waiting time 3/- an hour, excepting for the following areas, where contracts have been entered into.

Ref. No.	Car Proprietor.	Terms		Areas Covered
		Per Mile	Waiting Time	
1 *	T. J. Brown & Sons., 1, George Street, Brynmawr	9d.	2/6 per hour	Brynmawr, Darren- felen, and Clydach
2	A. Parry, Cynidr House, Llangynidr	10d.	2/6 per hour	Llangynidr, Bwlch, and Cwmdu
3	P. Wilkes & Sons, The Garage, Crickhowell	10d.	2/6 per hour (Minimum charge of 4/-)	Crickhowell, Gilwern Grwynefawr, Grwynefechan, Llanbedr, Llan- gattock, Llan- genny and Patrishow

* Brynmawr mileage counts from the residence of the patient whilst the others count from the garage.

Figures of the ambulance and sitting car services during 1950 are given below:—

Section 27.—Ambulance Services, 1950.

	Number of Journeys in the year.	Number of Patients carried.	Number of Accident and Other Emergency Calls Made. (included in Column 1).	Total Miles travelled in the year.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(a) Vehicles provided directly by the Council:				
Ambulances—2	827	2330	46	44542
Cars—Nil ...	...	...	...	...
(b) Vehicles provided by Agency Services (St. John Ambulance, etc.)				
Ambulances—4	1765	2243	83	41313
Cars— ...	2708	2754	...	84726

Section 28. — Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care—

Under this heading comes the after-care of patients suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defectiveness, all types of illnesses, the provision of equipment and apparatus (Medical Comforts) required for nursing the patients in the homes, and accommodation in the recuperation homes. The County Council, as was the case previously, is responsible for the provision of

extra nourishment, and clothes for the patient and his family except in the case of patients who are in receipt of national assistance when these items would be the responsibility of the National Assistance Board. Provision of out-door shelters, special beds and bedding, and other nursing requisites, etc., is the concern of the County Council, and applicants for any of these services are dealt with by furnishing applicants with forms on which they must enter particulars of all members of the family, income, etc. When assistance is given it is either free of charge or on a whole or part payment by the patient. The amount of payment to be made by the patient is assessed on an income scale adopted by the County Council and approved by the Ministry of Health.

Such items as wheel-chairs and crutches are provided by the County Council if the need is a temporary one, but if the necessity is likely to be permanent, then the responsibility for the provision of the articles rest with the Regional Hospital Board and are supplied through the Ministry of Pensions. Any applications of this nature are forwarded by this department to the appropriate Hospital Management Committee requesting them to deal with the case.

During the year the following 33 cases were dealt with under the scheme:—

Number of Cases.	Articles supplied.
2.	Invalid Chairs (Temporary).
3.	Bed Rest.
1.	Rubber Sheeting.
1.	Air Cushion.
2.	Extra Nourishment.
2.	Period of Convalescent Home
12.	Referred to appropriate Authority, i.e., National Assistance Board, Hospital, etc.
11.	Over Scale, not allowed, and applications withdrawn.

Medical Comforts. — With regard to nursing equipment and apparatus and medical comforts, the same conditions apply with regard to payment and full use is being made by the Council of the equipment already owned by the Order of St. John and British Red Cross Society.

ORTHOPÆDIC WORK.— The treatment of Orthopædic cases is undertaken and the services of Mr. Parker, Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff, are available. An orthopædic sister, Miss Ivy B. Leefe, is also engaged as a Part-time Officer.

Table shewing Cases referred to Orthopædic Surgeon.

CENTRE. DATE OF EXAMINATION.	Brecon 23/5/50	Brynmawr 31/10/50	Ystr'dg'n's 14/11/50	Totals
1. Number of Children under School Age called up for Examination ...	31	26	20	77
2. Number of Children Present and Examined ...	29	26	15	70
3. Number found not to require Treatment ...	4	...	...	4
4. Number found to require Domiciliary or Clinic Treatment ...	24	23	14	61
5. Number found to require Hospital Treatment ...	1	2	...	3
6. For Further Observation ...	...	1	1	2

TUBERCULOSIS. — The Treatment of Tuberculosis in the County is carried on by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board (Tuberculosis Division). Table V (appended) shows the number of cases notified on Form "A" during the year.

The Time Tables of the Tuberculosis Chest Physicians are as follows:—

Name and Address of Chest Clinic.	Dates of Attendance.	Times.
1. Dr. D. I. Williams, 2, Bulwark, Brecon—Telephone 54.		
Brecon .	Tuesdays	.. 11 a.m.—Consultation
	Fridays	.. 10 a.m.—New and old contacts (and by appointment)
Builth Hospital Builth Wells	.. Mondays	.. 10.30 a.m.—Clinic and Consultation.
The Hospital Llandrindod	.. Mondays	.. 2 p.m. — Clinic and Consultation
Highland Moors Sanatorium, Llandrindod	.. Mondays	.. 4.30 p.m. — A.P. Refills
Ystradgynlais--	.. Wednesdays	.. 2 p.m.—Clinic
Adelina Patti Hospital	Thursdays	.. 11 a.m. — A.P. Refills
2. Dr. A. E. Aslett, "Hawthorns," Courtland Terrace, Merthyr Tydfil—Telephone 129.		
For Cefn, Vaynor and Pontsticill Patients.		
Courtland Terrace Merthyr Tydfil	.. Mondays & Wednesdays Thursdays 1st Friday	.. 2 p.m. — New and Old patients, Contacts .. 2 p.m. — A.P. Refills .. 2-30 — Non-Pul. Consultation Clinic

Name & Address of Chest Clinic.	Dates of Attendance.	Times.
For Penderyn and Hirwaun Patients.		
42. Cannon Street, .. Aberdare	Mondays & Thurs- days	10 a.m. — New and old patients, Contacts
3. Dr. R. G. Prosser Evans, 107, London Road, Neath. Neath 278.		Telephone,

For Pontneathvaughan.

107, London Road, .. Neath	Mondays & Wednes- days & Thursdays	10 a.m. to 12 noon. Old and New Cases
4. Dr. F. W. Godbey, "Ennisclare," Llanarth Road, Pontllanfraith. Telephone—Blackwood 3281.		
"Ennisclare," .. Llanarth Road, Pontllanfraith	Mondays to Fridays.. Saturdays	10 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. .. 10 a.m. (Special Ap- pointments)

Note.—Brynmaur patients can also be seen at Nantyglo and Blaina Hospitals—Tuesdays—11 a.m.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The figures relating to patients known to have been treated during 1950 are as follows:—

1. Number of persons dealt with for the first time and found to be suffering from:—

	Swansea.	Hereford.
Syphilis ..	3	—
Soft Chancre ..	—	—
Gonorrhœa ..	1	—
Conditions other than Venereal ..	9	1

2. Total number of attendances of all patients residing in the area—Swansea, 155. Hereford, 1.

Treatment under provision of Ministry of Health Circular 2226.—At Doctors' Surgeries:—

		Gonorrhœa.		Other Conditions.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Cases seen for first time ..	2	1	—	1	
Number discharged after treat- ment ..	2	1	—	1	
Total Attendances ..	10	5	—	1	
Gonorrhœa. Syphilis.					
Number of specimens sent to a pathological laboratory ..			4	1	

CANCER.—During the year, 91 deaths were recorded, giving a death rate of 1.61 per 1,000, as compared with 91, and a death rate of 1.68 in 1950.

Section 29—Domestic Help.—This scheme is worked on a part-time basis, no whole-time helps being employed.

Number of Domestic Helps employed on 31st Dec., 1950:—

(a) Whole-time—Nil; (b) Part-time—56.

Number of cases where Domestic Help was provided during the year ... 128

Section 51—MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.—Under this section the County Council, through the Health Department, is responsible for the Mental Health Services.

The County Medical Officer undertakes the organisation and control of the service and the Mid-Wales Hospital Board have appointed a Psychiatric Social Worker. Duly Authorised Officers have been appointed who deal with the duties of initial proceedings under Section 51 of the Act.

Staff Employed.—The County Medical Officer is responsible for the work of ascertainment of mental defectives and for administration assisted by the Assistant Medical Officer who is already a qualified psychiatrist. One Psychiatric Social Worker is employed by the Regional Hospital Board, who gives part of her services to patients in this County, and five Duly Authorised Officers. At present there are no Occupation Centres or Supervisors.

Close co-operation is kept with the Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committees. No duties have been delegated to voluntary associations and no arrangements initiated for the training of Mental Health Workers, but the Psychiatric Social worker employed in the County is fully trained.

Work undertaken—

(A) Under Section 28, Prevention, Care and after-Care... Nil

(B) 1. Under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts by Duly Authorised Officers—year 1950.

Section 14, of the Lunacy Act, 1890—

Brecon and District	... 6
Builth and Talgarth District	... 5
Brynmawr and Crickhowell District	... 1
Cefn Coed District	... 2
Ystradgynlais District	... 7

Section 20, of the Lunacy Act, 1890 ... Nil

2. Other information—

(a) Cases admitted to and discharged from Mental Hospitals during 1950—

	Ad- mitted.	Dis- charged.	Died.
Certified Patients under Section 16, Lunacy Act, 1890 ...	21	6	7
Voluntary Patients, under Section 1, Mental Treatment Act, 1930 ...	51	38	3
Temporary Patients under Section 5, Mental Treatment Act, 1930 ...	—	—	—

(b) Actual number of Breconshire patients in Mental Hospitals on the 31st December, 1950—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Certified Patients ...	66	94	160
Voluntary Patients ...	6	22	28
Temporary Patients ...	—	—	—
Totals ...	72	116	188

Note.—For names and addresses of Duly Authorised Officers see under heading, National Assistance Act, 1948 (Welfare Services)—Page 20.

(C) Under Mental Deficiency Act, 1913-1938—

(1) Under Statutory Supervision—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 16 years of age...	2	1	3
Aged 16 years and over...	40	40	80

(a) In Institutions—

Under 16 years of age...	1	1	2
Aged 16 years and over...	6	20	26

(b) On Licence from Institutions—

Under 16 years of age...	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over...	2	2	4

(3) Patients certified in the year—

Under 16 years of age ...	1	1	2
Aged 16 years and over...	—	1	1

Ambulance Services.—The ambulance service for mentally ill patients are the same as set out in Section 27.

Mental Hospitals.—The Regional Hospital Board has one hospital in the County, viz., The Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth.

The Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth, is recognised as a place of Safety under Section 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, and patients in need of control can, therefore, be admitted and detained there for not more than three days. This hospital has accommodation for both males and females.

The Report of Miss Gwendoline Morgan, the Psychiatric Social Worker for Breconshire, is given below:—

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER.

During the year 1950 the number of patients visited by the Psychiatric Social Worker in the County of Brecon was 86. Of the 36 patients discharged from hospital 7 returned for further periods of treatment; 2 left the district; 4 did not wish to be visited. The remaining 20 patients have made steady progress and with help have been able to readjust their lives after their period in hospital.

Sixty-six cases were admitted to the Mid-Wales Hospital from Breconshire and relatives were visited with a view to obtaining a family and personal history of the patient. Behaviour and emotional difficulties have, when possible, been traced to their sources and details of environmental condition, both at home and at work, have been obtained in order to give the Psychiatrists an all round picture of the patient in his normal setting.

One mentally defective man, who had formerly been resident in Forden Hospital, has been licensed to a farm in the County and has settled happily in his new home.

Outside agencies have been making increasing use of the County's Social Service during the past months; cases have been referred by Child Guidance Clinics, hospitals outside the area and Marriage Guidance Councils.

The past year has not been an easy one for helping out-patients. Due to the isolated nature of many of the homes and the extremely bad weather, it has often been impossible to get transport up the country lanes. The sparsely habited areas, too, sometimes prove a difficulty from the patient's point of view. After living a community life at the hospital with entertainment, social interests, and constant companionship supplied, he does not find it easy to re-adjust himself to the quiet backwater of a rural area. Visits from the Social Worker are eagerly awaited and hospital news is avidly received. These visits to the lonely person appear to be of great importance. The patient feels that he is not completely cut off from the life he knew and the fact that he can, if need be, receive attention at the Psychiatric

Clinic, gives him a sense of security and alleviates the feeling of hopelessness which so often distresses the mentally ill person.

More noticeable in Breconshire than in any of the other counties in Mid-Wales is the difference in the attitude of the social classes towards mental illnesses. All the cases who have refused help after leaving hospital have consisted of the upper middle class—people who fear that their neighbours will scorn them for being mentally ill. Much more satisfactory is the outlook of the working-man who says, “I know I was proper crocked, but thanks to you hospital people, I think I shall be able to manage for myself soon.” It is only when the patient is prepared to co-operate that any practical good can be done by the Psychiatric Social Worker.

SUMMARY.

No. of home visits to patients admitted to the Mid-Wales Hospital	... 66
No. of patients discharged from the Mid-Wales Hospital	... 36
No. of visits paid	... 112
No. of mentally defective patients licensed to the county	... 1
No. of visits paid	... 6
No. of patients referred by other agencies	... 6
No. of visits paid	... 8

(Signed) GWENDOLINE MORGAN,

Psychiatric Social Worker.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.—Under this Act the Welfare Committee of the County Council is responsible for the Welfare of the Blind and the old table is retained for this year as follows, since my department is still undertaking the administration of this work:—

BLIND PERSONS.

A—New cases added to the register in the year . . 36

B—Cases examined in the year and found not blind 13

Blind persons on register, in the districts, at the end of 1950.

District.	Number of Blind Persons on County Register.		
	Male	Female	Total
Brecon Urban	13	9	22
Brynmawr Urban	6	10	16
Builth Wells Urban	1	2	3
Hay Urban	1	2	3
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban	1	2	3
Brecon Rural	7	17	24
Builth Rural	1	2	3
Crickhowell Rural	11	4	15
Hay Rural	1	4	5
Vaynor & Penderyn Rural	10	6	16
Ystradgynlais Rural	10	25	35
Totals	63	84	147
Totals 1949	58	76	134

Section 47.—No action was taken by the County Council under this section in the year.

Welfare of the Blind.—During the year a Blind Welfare Officer was advertised for but no applications were received. A Home Teacher for the Blind was obtained later in the person of Mr. A. C. Jardine, who commenced duties on 15th October, 1951.

WELFARE SERVICES.

The County of Brecon comprises one area for Welfare purposes divided into the following Districts:—

District.	Welfare Officer and Duly Authorised Officer.
1. *Brynmawr, Llanelly Hill, and Crickhowell	Mr. D. J. Davies, Welfare Offices, Bailey St., Brynmawr
2. Vaynor and Penderyn	Mr. D. W. Chambers, Abertaf, Cefn Coed.
3. Ystradgynlais	Mr. Wm. Davies, c/o. Roger E. L. Thomas, Pegler's Buildings, Ystradgynlais.
4. *Brecknock and Devynock	Mr. H. G. Edwards, 13, The Watton, Brecon.
5. *Hay, Talgarth and Builth	Mr. W. E. Davies, c/o. Masons Arms, Talgarth.

*Whole-time County Officers.

Welfare Home.—There is one Welfare Home at Hay, and it is called Cockcroft House.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Smallpox Hospitals.—Arrangements have been made for Smallpox Cases to be admitted to Penrhys Hospital and for Consultants to be called in to suspected cases. On diagnosing a case the Consultant will be responsible for arranging for Penrhys Hospital to be ready to receive the patient. In emergencies, where the consultants are not immediately available, a telephone call should be put through to the City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff (Telephone: Cardiff 960), giving details to a responsible officer. The patient will be removed by the County Council under their Ambulance Scheme made under Section 27 of the N.H. Service Act, 1946.

Table I. — Vital Statistics for Various Districts for 1950.

Name of District.	Population estimated to the middle of the year.	Births				Nett Deaths belonging to the District				Deaths of Mothers	
		Live Births		Still Births		At all ages		Under 15 of age		Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	Rate per 1000 Births
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number.	Rate per 1000 Live Births		
Brecon Urban ..	6562	103	15.6	3	0.4	64	9.7	1	9.7	..	..
Brynmawr Urban ..	6625	99	14.9	3	0.4	90	13.5	1	10.1	..	..
Builth Wells Urban ..	1674	24	14.3	..	..	36	21.5	..	..	..	..
Hay Urban ..	1455	19	13.0	2	1.3	24	16.4	..	..	..	..
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban ..	660	5	7.5	..	..	15	22.7	1	200.0	..	..
Brecon Rural ..	7178	116	16.1	3	0.4	91	12.6	2	17.2	..	..
Builth Rural ..	3391	67	19.7	1	0.2	46	13.0	3	44.7	..	..
Crickhowell Rural ..	7836	137	17.4	6	0.7	102	13.0	6	43.7	..	..
Hay Rural ..	3745	52	13.8	..	..	40	10.6	5	96.1	..	..
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural ..	6650	92	16.2	1	0.1	88	15.5	6	65.2	..	..
Ystradgynlais Rural ..	11650	157	13.4	6	0.5	135	11.5	8	50.9	..	..
Brecon County ..	56426	871	15.43	25	0.44	731	12.95	33	37.88	..	..
England and Wales..	..	..	15.8	..	0.37	..	11.6	..	29.8	..	6.81
Brecon County, 1949	54159	937	17.30	26	0.48	675	12.46	41	43.75	..	..

Table II.—Vital Statistics.
Causes of and Ages at Death during the Year, 1950.
WHOLE COUNTY.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and under 75 years.	75 and over
		Under 1 year	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and under 75 years.	75 and over
ALL CAUSES—Males	384	20	5	4	10	23	97	112	113
Females	347	13	2	2	...	24	72	94	140
Total	731	33	7	6	10	47	169	206	253
1 Tuberculosis, Respiratory	19	...	...	...	2	10	5	1	1
2 Tuberculosis, Other	6	...	2	1	1	1	1	...	...
3 Syphilitic Diseases	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
4 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Acute Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
8 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
10 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	32	...	...	...	...	1	12	12	7
11 Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1
12 Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4
13 Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	47	...	2	1	...	...	19	16	9
15 Leukaemia Aleukaemia	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
16 Diabetes	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
17 Vasoular Lesions of Nervous System	100	1	...	...	...	2	25	30	42
18 Coronary Disease, Angina	80	...	...	...	...	1	21	37	21
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease	19	...	...	...	...	1	6	5	7
20 Other Heart Disease	149	...	...	...	...	6	17	40	86
21 Other Ciroulatory Disease	28	...	...	...	...	...	4	11	13
22 Influenza	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
23 Pneumonia	21	5	2	...	1	1	4	3	5
24 Bronchitis	47	2	...	...	...	...	12	18	15
25 Other Diseases of Respiratory System	13	...	...	...	...	1	3	7	2
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	6	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2
27 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28 Nephritis and Nepbrosis	14	...	...	...	2	4	1	2	5
29 Hyperplasia of Prostrate	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital Malformations	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32 Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	86	19	...	1	1	6	22	11	26
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents	11	...	...	1	3	5	1	...	1
34 All Other Accidents	12	1	...	1	...	2	5	3	...
35 Suicide	7	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	1
36 Homicide and Operations of War	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...

Table III.—Vital Statistics.

Causes of Death in the Separate Districts of the County during the year, 1950.

Cause of Death.	URBAN					RURAL						TOTAL
	Brecon	Brynmawr	Builth Wells	Hay	Llanwrtyd Wells	Brecon	Builth	Crickhowell	Hay	Vaynor and Penderyn	Ystradgynlais	
1 Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	3	5	1	1	1	1	...	3	...	1	3	19
2 Tuberculosis, Other ...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	6
3 Syphilitic Disease ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
4 Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Meningococcal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
8 Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2
10 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	1	6	1	2	1	6	2	2	2	4	5	32
11 Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	5
12 Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	5
13 Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	4	11	6	1	...	5	1	6	3	1	9	47
15 Leukaemia Aleukaemia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2
16 Diabetes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	3
17 Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	13	15	2	4	2	19	5	12	3	11	14	100
18 Coronary Disease, Angina ...	13	7	6	5	1	16	4	5	5	8	10	80
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	6	4	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	4	19
20 Other Heart Disease ...	8	9	10	5	5	12	17	35	8	21	19	149
21 Other Circulatory Disease ...	...	4	2	1	...	4	...	5	2	1	9	28
22 Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
23 Pneumonia ...	4	2	1	...	...	1	1	2	2	3	5	21
24 Bronchitis ...	7	12	2	2	...	4	1	3	...	6	10	47
25 Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	7	13
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	2	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	6
27 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	2	7	14
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	5
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital Malformations ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	4
32 Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases ...	1	7	...	...	3	8	8	12	9	17	21	86
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	4	1	...	1	11
34 All Other Accidents ...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	2	4	12
35 Suicide ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	3	1	...	7
36 Homicide and Operations of War ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals ...	64	90	36	24	15	91	46	102	40	88	135	731
Totals, 1949 ...	82	81	29	28	13	69	37	74	50	81	131	675

Table IV. — Notifiable Diseases, 1950.

DISTRICT	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Euteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Erysipelae.	Opthalmia Neonatorum.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox	Polio-Encephalitis.	Undulant Fever.	Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Dysentery	Others	TOTALS
Brecon Urban	..	4	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Brynmawr Urban	..	13	..	..	12	1	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Builth Wells Urban	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Hay Urban	1
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Brecon Rural	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	13	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Builth Rural	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Crickhowell Rural	..	9	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42
Hay Rural	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Vaynor and Penderfryn Rural	..	6	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
Ystradgynlais Rural	..	4	1	2	1	137	1	166
Totals	..	63	6	..	14	7	2	2	269	11	1	375
Total, 1949	..	38	5	..	15	4	3	3	308	89	4	1	470

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